1. There are a variety of ways that students can be protected or avoid inappropriate web usage. On newer operating systems parents can set security settings to block any harmful material from ever making its way onto the computer screen. You may also set up spam filters in email accounts as well. Chatting online with strangers should be avoided altogether if possible, but if students are chatting online they should only do so with friends or in chat rooms that are age specific.   
  
2. Issues of privacy are of most concern on social networking sites, especially Facebook. Students should make sure to check their privacy settings often and keep all settings prompted to “Friends Only” in terms of who can view their personal information and profile. Giving information such as social security numbers, even address, phone number and birth date should not be allowed, and making sure their passwords are difficult and secure is important. Proper digital etiquette would include avoiding cyber bullying, sexting, and reminding students that what you post on social networks can also typically be seen by your family.  
  
3. Cyber bullying is defined as bullying through web and technology applications (IM, Facebook, cell phones) and can include physical threats, spreading rumors, etc. The best way to prevent cyber bullying is to have an open and honest dialogue with students and take note of any changes in student’s behavior. You should encourage students to report any harassment, and parents can either change their child’s phone number, have them delete users from their friend’s list online, report an incident to administrators or go to [www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com) if they feel there has been illegal activity.   
  
4. Teens need to know that sexting is actually illegal. If they are minors then they could possibly be charged with producing or distributing child pornography. Also, all it takes is one fight and that picture could be forwarded to any number of people, causing extreme embarrassment and possibly tarnishing the student’s reputation. Reporting inappropriate or unwanted images is fairly easy, contact the police if necessary but keep in mind there are serious consequences involved.  
  
5. Students need to keep in mind that every personal bit of information they type of the web is out there for any number of people to see. They need to be vigilant and beware of “phishing” sites that look official but are not, gaining personal information about the victim along the way. Students must keep their passwords unique and uneasy to guess, and try to vary their password from site to site.